Tooling Techniques Enhance Medical Imaging



Goddard Space Flight Center

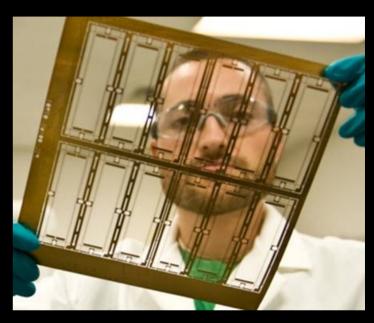
Mikro Systems Inc. Charlottesville, Virginia

NASA Technology

- The causes of solar flares—which pose a danger to spacecraft and can disrupt life on Earth—remain largely mysterious
- NASA funded the development of a device to capture high-resolution X-ray and gamma-ray images of eruptions

Partnership

- Through Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) contracts, Mikro Systems innovated the manufacturing process of fine, complex tungsten grids
- Using the technology, NASA has captured about 50,000 images of solar flares for analysis



Benefits

- The company commercialized the technology in multiple markets, including medical devices, security scanners, and turbine-engine blades
- Process lowers material costs by 96 percent and reduces production time by 90 percent
- By developing this technology, Mikro has created more than 35 jobs